

EDMONTON BULLETIN

(Semi-Weekly.)
Printed Monday and Thursday evenings.
Subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.
Advertisements: Five lines and under,
three insertions and under, 5¢; or ten cents a line
first insertion and five cents a line each week or less
of year's work.

Reading advertisements: \$1.00 an inch per month.
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THE MACKENZIE BASIN.

The London Times, of Dec. 30th, contains an article on the Athabasca, Peace, Liard, and Mackenzie river regions by Miss Flora Shaw, colonial editor of that paper, who visited Edmonton and Athabasca Landing last fall. Although Miss Shaw had not the advantage of travelling through-out the Mackenzie basin, having attended the council of Hudson's Bay Co. officers from all parts of the region held at Athabasca Landing last fall, she has been able to gather into one article a more complete, accurate, and intelligible account of the interesting side of that region than has ever before appeared in print. Miss Shaw's conclusion regarding agricultural capabilities is that the region between the Athabasca-Mackenzie and the Rockies, as far north as Fort Simpson at the junction of the Liard and Mackenzie is within the practicable limits of agriculture as far as climate is concerned. Much of this region will have to be reclaimed before it is of value, but on Peace River there is a stretch of from 400 to 600 miles of agricultural land. Even farther north of Simpson agriculture is practicable. The higher latitude is compensated for by the lower altitude and by the influence of the winds from the warm waters of the north Pacific. Her mention of the mineral resources of the country includes gold, copper, coal, gypsum, salt, sulphur and petroleum. Altogether this is the best write up the Mackenzie basin has ever received, and is of vast importance to this town and district, the commercial emporium and present source of food supply for the whole region.

The Free Press having conspicuously failed to work the personality of its editor into the pleasant little discussion recently going on between itself and the BULLETIN turns its attention to the personality of the editor of the BULLETIN as follows:

"The Edmonton BULLETIN is said to be owned, edited and managed by Mr. Oliver, M. P. The BULLETIN, however, is published by a company, a devoted double company, a member of parliament to put his hand in the public chest without incurring the penalty of the independence of parliament act."

The Free Press of course speaks according to its lights, and judges Mr. Oliver by what it knows of the members of the Free Press company.

MOODY'S REPORT.

Insp. Moody's report on his trip from Edmonton to Pelly river has been published. Speaking of the country passed through he says:

"I have not the slightest doubt that if the country were opened up and thoroughly prospected, it would be found immensely rich. Almost every stream yields color, and it only requires that these streams be followed up and properly prospected. Some of these, going through this summer prospected and exclaimed against the country, but I never heard of one who had gone to bedrock. I believe, from what I have seen and experienced miners have told me, that there is a great future for quartz mining west of the mountains and in the mountains themselves."

"The route I followed may be roughly said to be through heavy timber almost all the way, with the exception of from Sturgeon lake to a short distance west of Dunvegan ranches. From the Rockies, about fifty miles east of Graham, to the Peace, the country is simply a sea of mountains. There is no such thing as taking a bee line between any two places. From the Peace to Frances lake is rather better, but from there to the Pelly is again very mountainous and covered with about two feet of moss, making travel very hard on both men and horses."

"Any parties proceeding from Edmonton should start early enough to arrive at Fort St. John by the 10th of May. They could then give their horses a week's rest, and proceed as soon as the snow is sufficiently cleared in the mountains and before the rivers rise, arriving at Graham about the middle of June, or earlier. The delays at Fort St. John and Graham arose from our leaving in the autumn instead of in the spring."

"I saw some splendid vegetables at Dunvegan and Fort St. John, and fine wheat grown at the latter place. At Fort Graham good root crops can be raised and I saw some good samples of wild timothy seed."

"Copper was found near Deadwood lake, about forty miles east of McDermott creek, and a good seam of coal near Camp, fifty miles north of the divide between the Finlay and Black rivers."

LESSER SLAVE LAKE.

Willow Point, Jan. 4, '99.
A solid week of good genuine sport is the verdict here, after the following list of pleasures have been handed over to memory.

It started over at the English mission on the 26th of December, when the Rev. M. Holmes, assisted by Mrs. Holmes, Miss Sharp, and Mr. White the instructor, gave not only the children but every person else who cared to come. Invitations were extended to all. That is it is that is necessary to gather a crowd out in this section. An off very enjoyable concert was pulled off in the afternoon. There was over a large Christmas tree that had been swinging to and fro under its burden of very attractive presents, some of which had been brought from England by Rev. Mr. Holmes, who returned last summer, was stripped, and the presents given to the children and friends. Tea was served in the parsonage by Mrs. Holmes and Miss Sharp, and a very enjoyable time was terminated by Rev. Mr. Holmes turning up the stereopticon lamp. An hour of solid pleasure followed. We were transported (in our mind) from this land of zero to sunny Italy; out among the "Chingis"; a trip to the coast; the funny man in the show gave us a turn; old London's principal scenes; up among the Scots; Ireland's famous Killarney; and others too numerous to mention. Sufficient to say that like every thing else there's an end, and it came with regrets. We left for home at a reasonable hour feeling happier and better.

Every evening of Christmas week was occupied by tea dances, given by the different natives. To thoroughly understand and appreciate a tea dance you have to go to one and "square" it out. Tom tom-ting and ki-yi-ing is the order of the sport; and a pile of some unknown substance is sandwiched in between. Every person seems to enjoy it, if you can judge by appearances, and none are more enthusiastic than the whites.

On the evening of Dec. 28th, the married men gave a ball, and in every respect it was a success, quite up to the bachelors' ball given earlier in the season.

New Year's day dawned clear and cold 46 below; and as is customary in this country every person called on every person; shook hands, kissed all the females, cat, and started for the next shake and repeated the performance. This kind of thing lasted all day, and well on into the night. It would be a good thing for your ladder in this country if New Year's came every 10 years. We fed people we never saw before and never expect to see again on that day. We don't take it as hard as we might "as there was a bit of osculating in the game."

The Monday evening following New Year's day, an entertainment at the Catholic mission wound up the gaiety. The entertainment itself was of a very high order, all things considered. The children attending the mission were the sole performers, and rendered all their numbers well. Their success reflects great credit on the sisters. They are a bit weak in solos, but in choruses they are immense. The entertainment wound up by an address from the bishop in French. Father Falher spoke briefly, but happily, in Cree. Messrs. McDermott, and Gray, local leaders, with an interest in church work, addressed the children urging them to obedience to their teachers and perseverance in their studies; and told them how proud they felt after listening to the very enjoyable concert given by them; and pictured a bright future on earth and a wonderful hereafter on high.

Sgt. Anderson, of the N. W. M. P., arrived here on the 30th of December with two dog teams. The sergeant was as pleasant and smiling as ever, and seems to be right in his element when hustling around the country. He left for the Crossing, and is expected in to-morrow. He says he is going to make Fort Saskatchewan by the 18th of January.

Ten or a dozen teams leave here within two days for Edmonton for freight for the deerjais and Bredin are taking down fur and will be in Edmonton some time around the 20th or 25th of January.

The weather is clear and cold and the thermometer stares you in the face from anywhere between 40 and 50 below. The sleighing is grand, and is well patronized. Fur is plentiful and trade is brisk. Prospects for the coming year, from the present outlook, with the treaty a possibility, are indeed rosy.

OMENICA MINING.

The Victoria Colonist has the following regarding hydraulic mining operations on the waters of the Omenica, the principal gold bearing branch of the Peace. This indicates that a large amount of development will go on during the coming season. Edmonton should bid for the supplies and transport.

The shareholders and directors of St. Anthony's Exploration Co., Ltd.

the company of Southern California capitalists who have obtained control of a portion of German creek in the Omenica district, at a meeting held last month ratified and approved the action of the president of the company, Hon. Jarrett T. Richards, in the obtaining of leaseholds and purchasing of bench claims, water rights, etc., from the Omenica Consolidated Hydraulic Mining Company. The directors were empowered and directed to procure plant and proceed to work with as much expedition as possible. The necessary capital to complete purchases and covering the estimates of the mining experts of the company who prospected the ground, for all plant and development, was at the same time provided for."

...Feed Oats...

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Wedding Rings and other jewelry made on the premises from Saskatchewan Gold.

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Good Evening!

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General Merchants along the C. & E. kindly note.

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est values in Ladies' Winter Jackets ever shown in Edmonton, from \$4.50. Beautiful range of Flannelette Blouses (all lined) from 85c. Felt Skirts worth \$1.00 for 65c. And a most complete assortment of Ladies' Underwear of all kinds, at most moderate prices.

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In Men's, Women's and Children's Boots and Shoes Moccasins, Gaiters, Rubbers, etc., will be found a very large range, which for value distance all competitors.

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Sleigh Bells, Saddle Gongs. Pumps and Well Pipes.

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We have a large assortment to choose from and they are the best in Edmonton. Take advantage of this liberal offer. It is only for ONE MONTH.

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We will offer you inducements in the Furniture line that will make you want to let the old things slide and find new. This old Mattress on the boy's bed, full of lumps and holes, makes your boy crooked to be in. Our Fibre Mattresses are the most healthy and durable on the market to-day. They are made in two pieces and are so easy to handle.

Now something nice to put this Mattress on is a pretty white iron Bed. We have just received a large consignment of both black and white Beds in different designs. Come and see the bargains we have before buying.

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Dry Fire Wood,

Cord wood length, at
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W. S. ROBERTSON, Agent.

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We understand that flour has been offered for sale in unbranded sacks, and represented as the product of our mill, and we wish to warn the public that we will be responsible for neither the quantity or quality of any flour claimed to be our product unless in sacks branded with our trade mark.

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